



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

Vol. 25.23 Thursday, June 6, 2019

Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

Belleville to consider public safety assessment

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Belleville City Council will consider a council vote to assess a public safety millage to raise the money needed to provide police and fire services.

Based on a taxable valuation of \$88.5 million, the city's property tax revenue would increase by \$88,536 for each mill assessed. By law the city can levy up to 20 mills and this millage is not subject to DDA capture.

For a home valued at \$75,000 with a taxable value of \$37,500, annual cost per mill would be \$37.50. For a \$400,000 home with taxable value of \$200,000, the annual cost per mill would be \$200.

At Monday's regular meeting, the council accepted the \$2,138,501 budget as presented, with the caveat that a time line must be brought back to the council for what is necessary for a special assessment, along with the necessary public hearing, and when it needs to be available to be placed on the winter tax roll.

The budget accepted is balanced except for \$295,000, which is the estimated cost of the seawall repair and is coming out of the fund balance.

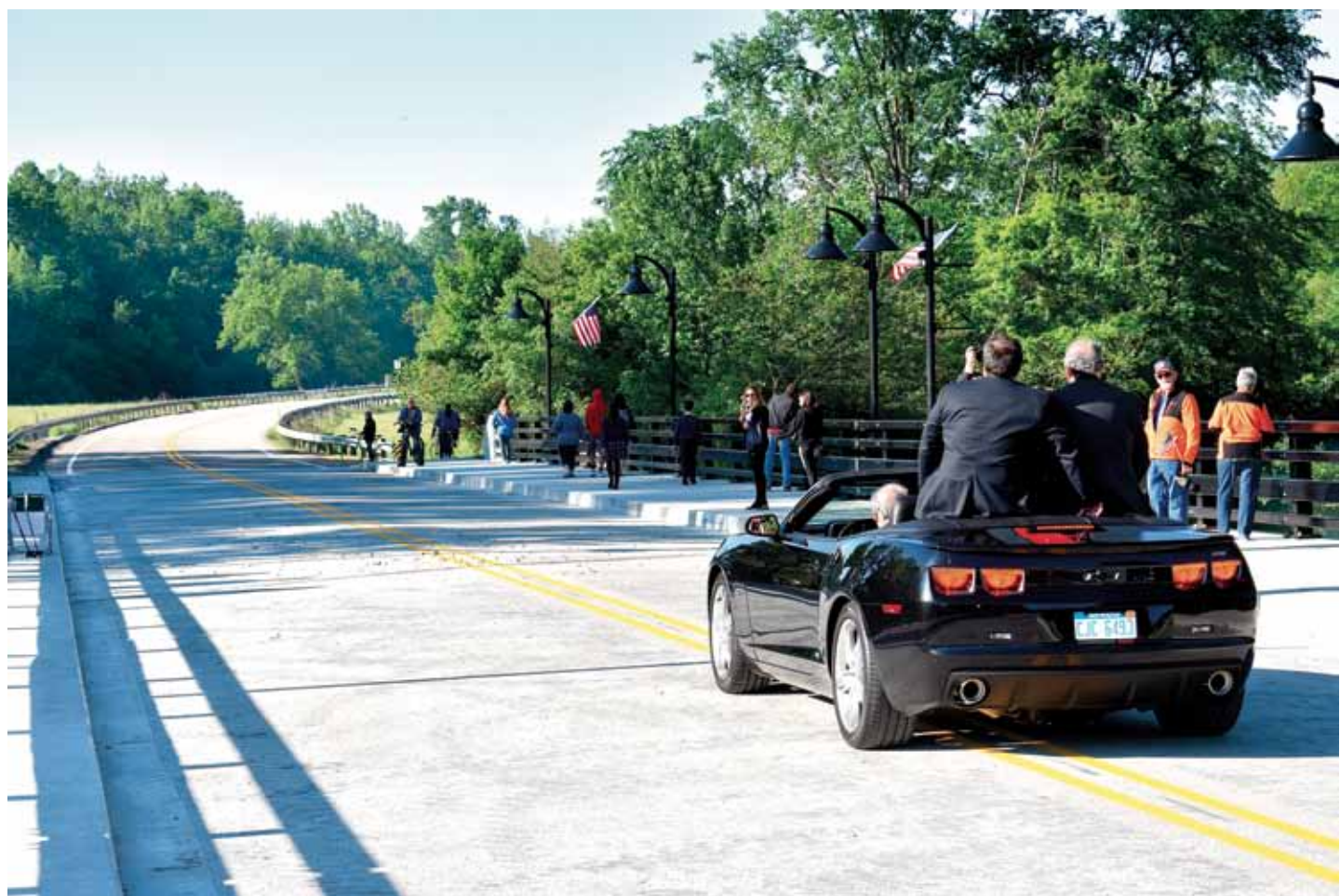
After that expenditure, the general fund fund balance is expected to be \$1,101,300.04.

The general fund budget is supporting the Cemetery Fund in the amount of \$4,100 and the Capital Purchase fund in the amount of \$33,000 for police cars.

If the public safety millage assessment is enacted by the council, the 2019-20 budget will be amended.

Kelly Howey of Plante Moran, the city's financial officer, said there is a Headlee Rollback this year that puts the city millage back from the previous 18.10 mills expected to 16.506 mills which reduces the

(continued on page 11)



Waltz Bridge now open



Independent photos by Bob Mytych

Huron Township Supervisor David A. Glaab cut the ribbon to open the Waltz Road Bridge in New Boston on Monday morning with the help of Wayne County Executive Warren Evans, at left, and Wayne County Commissioner Al Haidous, far right. Also taking part in the ceremony were the Rev. Father John Hedges of St. Stephen Catholic Church and Candace Myshock of the Huron Township Historical Commission. The original bridge was built in 1888 and then, two years ago, shut down for safety reasons and then completely rebuilt. The first car over the bridge on Monday was a convertible owned by Commissioner Haidous' son which carried Haidous, Evans, and Glaab.

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SECOND FRONT PAGE

Winners announced for Sumpter Township Cutest Baby Contest

On Memorial Day, May 27, the winners of the Cutest Baby Contest were announced at the annual Sumpter Country Fest.

In the cutest baby boy category, 18-month-old Wyatt Bennett, son of Brianne and Eugene Bennett, won first place. The second-place winner was Henry Sieg, son of Mihinzi and Dave Sieg. The third-place winner is Jesse Watt, son of Anthony and Juliana Watt.

In the cutest baby girl category, the first-place winner is Laiyanna Napoletano, daughter of Heather and Alex Napoletano. The second-place winner is Eleanor Truchan, daughter of Melina and Brian Truchan. The third-place winner is Everleigh Vieira, daughter of Jessy Schultz

and Dennis Vieira.

Other participants in the contest include Liam Howell, Malachi Smith, Chandler Crain, Layla Jordan, and Stevie Saksewski.

On behalf of the Sumpter Parks and Recreation Commission, I would like to thank everyone who entered a child in the contest. The pictures bring joy to the faces of all the visitors, and the most common remark is, "They are all winners." The funds from the contest go to Sumpter Township Parks and Recreation Commission to provide child-related events throughout the year.

Virginia Belinski, chairperson
Sumpter Cutest Baby Contest



1. Laiyanna Napoletano



2. Eleanor Truchan



3. Everleigh Vieira



1. Wyatt Bennett



2. Henry Sieg



3. Jesse Watt

Letter

Breaking the Silence about Sumpter Police

To the editor,

I can no longer keep quiet about my termination from the Sumpter Township Police Department. I realize and clearly understand that "Life isn't always fair." I have learned to stand up and fight for what is right and to take responsibility for my mistakes and/or wrongdoings as so should others. There hasn't been one day that has gone by over the last 15 months where I haven't reflected on my termination from SPD and all the surrounding circumstances.

After more than nine years on the job as a police officer with the Sumpter Township Police Department, Chief Luke forbid me to work my secondary employment which helped me afford the "extras" I found myself up against as a single mother of four kids. Chief Luke made this decision stating he felt the mistakes I was making on the job was a direct cause of me working too much. The real reason I was making mistakes was because of the mental stress I had been experiencing for years as a police officer with Sumpter Township. The mental stress was not from the duties of the job, but from the years of internal mental stress from within the department.

After approximately one year of not being able to work my secondary employment, I fell into a financial crisis. I did not know how to reach out and ask for help, as I have

always been the one who helped others. On approximately six occasions I took what totaled approximately \$3,000 from our officers' union "flower fund." I was the union secretary/treasurer at that time. This fund was from us officers contributing to on a monthly basis. Over the years, this fund was used to help other officers within the department who had financial situations, flowers for funerals, contributions to food packages for needy families within our community in Sumpter Township, etc.

I knew that I would have to pay the money back and come forward with what I had done. I had to find a way to pay back the money and I ended up taking real estate classes and obtaining my real estate license which was eventually approved by Chief Luke.

I saved the \$3,000 from a real estate deal and kept it in my personal account as our union was going through executive board member and bank changes. I ended up becoming union president and two other officers became VP and secretary/treasurer. Once this transition happened, I returned the money plus an extra \$100 and requested a meeting with the VP and secretary/treasurer where I admitted to them what I had done. I apologized numerous times with sincerity, shame and regret. It was explained that I did not know how to reach out for help from our union members and was embarrassed to be in the financial situation I was in. By this time I had already been going through therapy for over a year to deal with the years of mental stress I had been experiencing from within the police department and to figure out why I was not able to reach out for help from the union members, as what I had done was way out of character for me.

It was agreed upon between the union executive board members that we would

handle this within the union and, yes, this was "embezzlement" but as long as I resigned as president, contacted the officers of our union to let them know what I had done and the returned money had been verified then the union was satisfied with this. I was advised by the VP to contact the remaining four officers in our union over the weekend and if they were in agreement of how the executive board members were handling this then it would be considered handled within our union.

I contacted three of the four officers immediately after I returned home from our meeting. I explained exactly what I had done and why and that it was wrong. All three officers advised me that they understood the financial hardship and that they agreed with the executive board members handling this within our union. The officers advised me that they did not think any less of me and if I had reached out and asked for help that they would have certainly agreed to help.

Less than 24 hours after our executive board meeting, I was contacted by the VP ordering me to contact Chief Luke to let him know what I had done as he could not sleep the night before having it on his conscience that this was embezzlement. I advised the VP that we as an executive board agreed the night before that this would be handled within the union and if he wanted to call Luke to go ahead, which he did.

Less than 72 hours later, I was ordered to complete a statement, have union representation and be in Luke's office for a disciplinary hearing. During my hearing, it was apparent Luke wanted

me fired regardless of the surrounding circumstances. Luke asked me what I thought my punishment should be and I responded stating a 30-day unpaid suspension. Luke stated that no one at the department (including the officers of our union even though none of those officers were asked how they felt) wanted me there, that I could never be trusted again and that even if he allowed me to keep my job his concern would be that none of the other officers would back me up out on the street and that would put me in harm's way of not having proper officer back-up.

Luke advised me that if I attempted to fight to keep my job that it would only take one officer to file criminal charges against me for embezzlement because paying back the money does not change the crime. Luke had a hidden body camera video set up in his office during my hearing which was not known until my termination hearing went to the township board members. A copy of this video was obtained at a later date. I felt intimidated by Luke and threatened by him because I have been well aware of the long negative history he has had toward me since I was hired in 2005.

After my hearing with Luke and before his recommendation was submitted to the township board members at a special meeting requested by Luke, I was ordered to clear out my locker in the locker room, my desk area, turn in my uniforms, firearm, keys, badge and any other department equipment and not to return to the department. I was not put on administrative leave because I was on disability leave at that time from a work-related knee injury.

(continued on page 8)

OPINIONS

Editorial

Traffic light could help dangerous intersection

At Tuesday's meeting of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees, Supervisor Kevin McNamara announced that a full-blown traffic light will be installed at the South I-94 Service Drive and Hannan Road intersection next year.

He said the dangerous intersection, at the VBT border, was first on the radar last year, but it has been a dangerous intersection for many years.

After the Amazon delivery center was built last year at that corner in Romulus, drivers started buzzing out of there at excessive speeds and the problem grew.

Supervisor McNamara said VBT supported Romulus in an application for a grant from the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) and Romulus got a \$160,000 grant for the traffic signal.

At a recent Romulus City Council meeting, council members talked about how Amazon drivers were going over 50 mph in the 35 mph zone on Hannan Road. City administration was going to talk to the Amazon manager about it.

The intersection currently has full traffic stops for drivers on the eastbound S. I-94 Service Drive in VBT and the westbound Northline Road in Romulus, with no stops for the Hannan Road traffic.

Next year we expect to see the traffic lights in place and a safer corner. Our weekly dispatch logs record regular accidents at that corner. Will a light make them stop – or make it worse?

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

...By Rosemary K. Otzman

On Sunday I attended the monthly Bugles Across America event at the Veterans Monument in Horizon Park in Belleville. I asked the veterans present why there were only three wreaths that had been put in place there on Memorial Day.

Usually there are wreaths from Belleville, Van Buren, and Sumpter, along with a wreath from the local Veterans of Foreign Wars post and the Polish League of American Veterans post.

This year Van Buren and Sumpter did not bring a wreath. The two townships sent people to speak – in fact, Van Buren sent two trustees who spoke – but no wreaths.

The veterans told me the townships had been alerted, but no wreaths came.

Last Friday, I had dinner with two editors I used to work with years ago when I was managing editor of *The Richmond Review* in Richmond, MI. We ate at Johnny's on the Lake. One came from Ann Arbor and the other came from Royal Oak, but both ended up in Hillside Cemetery.

They each told the same story of driving over the Belleville Bridge and staying in the right lane because they knew they had to turn right at the light at High Street. When they got to Denton Road, they had to turn right there because it is a right-turn-only lane, so they did.

After the right turn, that they didn't want to make, they came to the cemetery entrance and thought that would be a good place to turn around. They drove through the cemetery and turned around and made it to dinner on time.

These were two very bright people in two different cars coming from two different directions and they both ended up in the



cemetery.

How many times do you think that happens to people coming into town from someplace else, when they don't know the territory? They told me they think there should be signs that are more prominent.

Rick Rutherford was asked at Monday's meeting of the Belleville City Council about what was going in at the old car wash and the building next door referred to as "Chesley's building."

Rutherford said they are planning to get a retail tenant for the car wash and he's not sure about Chesley's building. He said the new owner wants an auto sales showroom, but right now he's just trying to rehabilitate the building. Rutherford said the new owner would have liked to sell cars there, but the zoning isn't right for that.

Chesley's building was previously owned by Chesley Odom, a designer, who had the whole building painted black, including the roof. He told me he was going to put the address numbers in really big format at a slant across the front of the building. Things stopped happening after Chesley died suddenly. I miss him. That building has drawn lots of criticism as it deteriorated, but now it's on the upswing.

We have pictures of all the new outdoor sculptures in the City of Belleville and Van Buren Township that were installed last week. It was supposed to be last Thursday, but it turned out to be Friday.

The large Coy fish sculpture that was going to Horizon Park was sold by the sculptor and so a different one was put in place there. And, the large arch sculpture that was supposed to be in the back of the Fourth Street Square couldn't be placed there because of the fence, so it is in the front of the Square on the sidewalk right next to the Bayou.

We expect to find room for the 10 sculptures in next week's paper.

During the work/study meeting of the Van Buren Township Board of Trustees on Monday afternoon, Treasurer Sharry Budd announced that the Belleville High School Girls Softball Team had just won the district championship.

She said she just got a call from her Deputy Treasurer Sean Bellingham, who is the head coach of the team. Everyone at the meeting was very happy at the news. I don't know anyone who doesn't respect Sean's work and like him as a really nice guy. Now, he's a top coach.

Sean used to do the finances for the City of Belleville and they like to say VBT stole him away. They did. The Bellinghams live in Sumpter Township and so many people in the tri-community know them. In fact, Mrs. Bellingham is Human Resources Director for Sumpter Township.

Needless to say, there's a Bellingham – Haley – on the championship team.



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**BELLEVILLE - AREA
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— Albert Einstein

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...I'm changing the things I cannot accept."**

-- Angela Davis



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Letters

How about 'Belleville Lake Township'?

To the editor,

For generations our entire region has been known by the generic name **Belleville**. (For example, **Belleville Lake, Belleville Museum, Belleville Area Historical Society, Belleville Area Council for the Arts, Belleville Community Chorus, Belleville High School, Belleville Rotary, Belleville Area Community Band, Belleville Road and the like**). For many reasons, it seems unlikely that the City of Belleville and Van Buren Township will ever combine into one municipality. Further, Van Buren Township has now complicated the problem as it has sought a separate postal designation and has asked for separate identity with the post office. Many Van Buren residents believe that new postal identity is confusing, not helpful.

I propose that the Van Buren Township Board establish a study committee to consider a recommendation to the community that we change our township name to **Belleville Lake Township**. (Our township logo is a sail boat.) If the study committee believes that such a name change would be a good move for the township, then the community at large could hold an advisory vote to confirm or deny the name change.

I believe the Van Buren Township Board has the authority to effect a name change. (Disclaimer: I do not practice municipal law.) A change to the name **Belleville Lake Township**, I believe, would solve many geographical identity problems for Van Buren residents and confirm the history of our area.

This proposed name change did not originate with me. I have heard such a name change discussed among several groups. I suggest we move forward with a community-wide discussion and then hold an advisory vote by the community at large.

Hoping to live in Belleville Lake Township,
Barbara Rogalle Miller

VBT has lost its direction on nature trail

To the editor,

I read in the *Independent* that Van Buren Township had a special meeting trying to figure out a legal way to pay for improvements to the Grace Lake nature trail. Trying to think up new ideas to bend the rules to give money to a corporate landlord so their private property can be improved. Did I read that correctly?

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Did I read that VBT is bending over backwards to accommodate a corporate private property owner for the same thing the township takes little old ladies to court for? Literally that is what the township is doing, because they will take a little old lady to court and condemn a long-time home over an un-kept yard.

Let's review the townships ideas:

1. Have the Boy Scouts do it, so they can earn a badge. What badge would that be? The "free corporate property maintenance" badge?

2. Have the Eagle Scouts build them benches.

3. Get the corporate private property owner grant money.

4). Hold the corporate landlord a fund raiser.

If you or I have the same problem we will get an ordinance ticket and then taken to court if we do not act within the township-allotted time frame.

Maybe we should include the Boy Scouts' phone number with all ordinance tickets to make it fair? Or, how about Grace Lake takes all that bond money and pays an ordinance ticket, too. Just an idea.

If VBT is dead-set on doing the work, have the property leased to parks and rec. Then everyone can use it and VBT can do the work.

Andrew Slovik

Editor's Note: The nature trail was discussed in the May 14 meeting of the Van Buren Township Local Development Finance Authority (LDFA).

Don't forget to order your Missoula DVDs

To the editor,

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts (BACA) and Missoula Theater arranged for a DVD recording of the performance of *The Pied Piper* to be provided to parents.

We are taking orders for the DVDS until Saturday, June 15, 2019. If you want a DVD copy of the performance, please write a check to BACA for \$15 and deliver it to the law office of Barbara Rogalle Miller, 321 Main Street, in downtown Belleville (734-697-4455). Delivery or mail on or before June 15, 2019.

Again, the Missoula Committee thanks the community for its support of our children's theater project. The kids had a great time and learned a great deal about theater and about life.

Barbara Rogalle Miller
Missoula Committee Member

Man may get probation for hurting my son

To the editor,

I am Nicholas Franklin's mom who was assaulted at Applebee's in August of 2018. Court has recently been completed with the defendant, Jonathan Anthony Enos, only receiving the lesser charge of Aggravated

(continued on page 7)

More Letters

Don't let Flag Day go by without flying our flag

To the editor,

This is a reminder to Belleville residents and all my South Biggs neighbors.

On June 14, Americans celebrate the adoption of the first national flag. Also known as the "Stars and Stripes" or "Old Glory," the first American flag was approved by the Continental Congress on June 14, 1777. In 1818, after five more states joined the Union, Congress passed legislation fixing the number of stripes at 13 and requiring that the number of stars equal the number of states.

June 14, 2019 is fast approaching and I will attempt to have a flag displayed at every home on South Biggs Street.

Here's your chance to demonstrate pride in our country and remember our fallen veterans. Once again, I am encouraging all my South Biggs neighbors and the city, to have a flag at every home. If the results this

year are anything like the last six year's, you will be impressed by the display my South Biggs Street neighbors put on. This should be a city-wide effort and I am looking forward to having several more streets with 100% participation. I dare you to drive up South Biggs Street and NOT be impressed with the sight of U.S. Flags at every home.

Free Flags: Thanks to very generous donations from John Vredevelde at Manns Lumber and Tom Tinsley of Contract

Welding, I have very many "free," refurbished flags (11"x16") available. All these flags are from Hillside Cemetery where they were flown over a veteran's grave. Let's remember these veterans once again by re-displaying the U.S. Flag at your home. Stop by and pick up one at 48 S. Biggs. Also, I can have your old flags properly disposed. Drop them off when you pick up a new one.

Don't let Flag Day go by without

acknowledging our Great County.

Pete Pitzen
Belleville

P.S. Thank you to the few who picked up FREE flags over Memorial Day and left a monetary donation. It's not necessary, but it is very much appreciated. These donations will be turned over to my VFW Post #4434. A total of approximately 100 flags were picked up over the week of Memorial Day.

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Obituaries



Julia McLaughlin

JULIA McLAUGHLIN

May 23, 1922 – June 1, 2019

Mrs. Julia McLaughlin, age 97, passed away at Hospice of Lenawee, Adrian, MI, on Saturday, June 1, 2019. She was born May 23, 1922 in Bellwood, Illinois, daughter of Theophil & Emma (Lieber) Miller. She was a member of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Belleville, MI. She enjoyed crocheting, flower gardening and shopping.

Julia is survived by four daughters Delores (Roy) Martin of Willis, MI, Sharon (Ray) Paseur of Mississippi, Janet (Sam) Taylor of Onsted, MI and Valerie (Ronnie) Ison of Alabama; 10 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, 23 great-great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, husband Donald Eugene McLaughlin on November 1, 1992, son Terry McLaughlin on August 9, 2010, four sisters Christine Cooley, Freda Phillips, Emma Hogan and Mary Tierney; also four brothers Dave, Nick, Andy and Carl Miller.

Visitation was 4-8 PM Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, 460 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI 48111 (734) 697-4500. A Funeral Service was at Noon Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 47445 W. Huron River Dr., Belleville, MI, with visitation 11 AM-12 PM at church. Rev. James A. Frey officiated. Interment was in Hillside Cemetery, Belleville, MI. Memorial contributions may be made to the family.

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Obituaries



Kerry Dale Mercier

KERRY DALE MERCIER

September 14, 1951 – May 28, 2019

Kerry Mercier, a longtime resident of Belleville, MI, died peacefully Tuesday, May 28, 2019, at U of M Hospital surrounded by his loving family.

Kerry proudly served in the United States Marine Corps as a Field Radio Operator during the Vietnam Era. He was honorably discharged with a Rifle Sharp Shooter Badge, National Defense Service Medal and Good Conduct Medal.

After working most of his life in the steel mills, he retired on a disability about seven years ago and was enjoying his much-deserved retirement. Kerry was fun-loving, always ready for a get together so he could show off his fantastic cooking skills. We will surely miss his great soups, famous pig roasts, his savory brisquets and best of all his potato pancakes. Kerry loved to fish and hunt and was especially proud of the fact that he was able to instruct his oldest grandson, Jason, so that he could get his hunter safety license.

He is survived by his loving wife Kathleen Mercier, his beloved daughters, Holly (Jeff) Tedrick, Corey LaFramboise, Shannon (Carlos) Cabrera, Pam (Chris) DeWitt; mother Billie; sisters Pam and Jeri; brothers Robert and Tim; and grandchildren Jason, Jaxon, Colin, JT, Vince, and Brina; and his many nieces and nephews and extended family and friends. He is preceded in death by his father Milton and his brother Tom.

Kerry did not want a funeral or wake but he did request instead to have a celebration of Life Party within the next few months. He would like everyone to enjoy themselves and remember the Good Times from past years.

The family will keep everyone updated as to the date of this event.



Inez Bonham

INEZ BONHAM

January 14, 1925 – June 2, 2019

Age 94 of Sumpter Township. Beloved wife of Joe Bonham, loving mother of Demitrus. She is preceded in death by her two daughters Cynthia and Beriah. She is also survived by 19 grandkids, 49 great-grands, and 11 great-great-grandkids.



Melvin Lee "Mel" Hodges

MELVIN LEE 'MEL' HODGES

April 29, 1938 – June 2, 2019

Age 81 of Belleville, passed away Sunday, June 2, 2019 following an extended illness, with his wife Sandy, sister Patricia and niece Dawn by his side. He was born April 29, 1938 in Flint, the son of Edmond M. and Helen M. (Weatherwax) Hodges.

Mel served honorably in the U.S. Air Force for four years. He worked for General Motors, Ypsilanti plant for 32 years, retiring in 1992. He then worked for Ed Rose and Sons for 25 years, retiring in 2017.

Mel was a member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Belleville and past Governor of the Ypsilanti Moose Lodge #782. He enjoyed riding his Harley, bowling and collecting coins. He had an incredible sense of humor and was an animal lover. The family would like to give a special thanks to their dear friend Margie Grubaugh.

Survivors include: his wife Sandy Ainley; two children Mel (Loretta) Hodges Jr. and Carrie Brown; four grandchildren; three sisters, Jacqueline Irish, Patricia Hagerman and Yvonne Burns; and several nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents.

The funeral service will be 11 a.m. Saturday, June 8, 2019 at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Road, Belleville with Rev. Sally Boelton officiating. Burial will follow in Union-Udell Cemetery. Contributions in his memory may be made to the Humane Society of Huron Valley. Envelopes are available at Stark Funeral Service where the family will greet friends 5-8 p.m. Friday and at the church from 10 a.m. until time of service Saturday. Please sign his guest book at www.starkfuneral.com.

More Letters

(continued from page 5)

Assault rather than the charge less than murder.

Our family is devastated by the jury's decision, with the overwhelming evidence against the defendant. I am reaching out to ask you to do a story on the outcome. I am begging people to write letters or send messages to Judge Qiana Lillard in Detroit to ask for the maximum sentence.

This man slammed my minor son's head against the concrete and he could have died and he might walk away with probation. This man has permanently hurt my son for life, and might walk away with probation.

I need help bringing light to this injustice and asking for the maximum sentence for this crime.

Thank you for your time.
Heather Waters

Editor's Note: We published a story on the jury conviction on page 3 of the May 16 *Independent*. Sentencing is set for June 12 at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice before Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Lillard.

Breaking silence

(continued from page 3)

During the special meeting, we had gone in a closed meeting session where I was allowed a two-week extension due to lack of union representation that did not show up and that Luke sent me his termination recommendation documents just hours before the special township board meeting. During the two weeks I conducted my own investigation to prepare my case to Supervisor John Morgan and the rest of the board members. I had asked Luke in the open forum at the end of the special meeting if he had recorded my disciplinary hearing. Past experience with disciplinary hearings is that Luke usually records the hearing and announces that it is being recorded and it's visible on his desk. This was not the case for this hearing. Luke stated that he did record it and I asked for a copy of this recording which I obtained from him approximately four to five days later.

During my review of the video, it was clear in the video that Luke used a body camera that was hidden in his office on a top shelf where Lt. Gannon had placed it. Department policy on the Axon Body Camera is against department policy to use the body camera to secretly record other officers within the police department unless it is detrimental to an undercover investigation. This was not an undercover investigation. It was a disciplinary hearing and Luke had already conducted his investigation.

I cannot keep silent any more, being afraid to speak up out of fear Luke would have an officer file formal charges against me for embezzlement, which he did have Sgt. Egerer (not any officer from our police officers' union) complete a written statement stating she believes she has been a victim of fraud during the time she was in our union. Sgt. Egerer's statement goes on to state that this is her written statement for criminal charges against me and is willing to press charges and attend court proceedings as needed. To date, Sgt. Egerer has not pressed charges against me as I believe this is because I did not fight to keep my job nor attempt to obtain a police job at another agency.

After the township board members agreed to allow me two weeks to review Luke's recommendation and obtain whatever information I needed to present to the township board members, I did not present the township board members with information on my case and some improprieties within the Sumpter Police Department and the long history of what I had been going through within the department out of fear Luke would carry out his threats to have me charged criminally. I felt intimidated and threatened by Luke that he would indeed get an officer (Sgt. Egerer) to press charges against me.

If it was the right thing to do to fire me without any regards to the crisis and circumstances surrounding my situation I was in, then why has Officer Salajan been able to keep his job after being arrested for

(continued on page 9)

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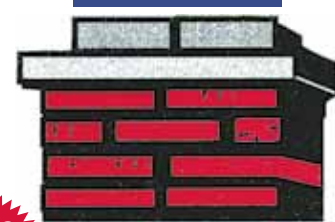
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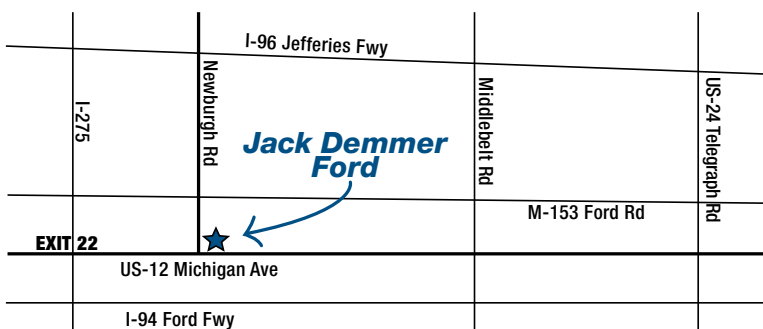
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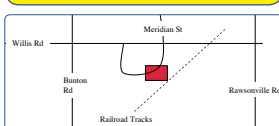
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Breaking silence

(continued from page 8)

a “Super Drunk” driving accident charge? Why was Officer Salajan not treated the same as I had been and asked to clear out his locker, desk area, etc.? Why did Luke not immediately take his termination recommendation to the township board or request a “special meeting”? According to newspaper articles in the *Independent*, Officer Salajan also admitted during his arrest that he F*** up after he was caught. How can Luke say I could never be trusted again for what I had done, yet Officer Salajan can be trusted? Luke stated to me that if I had an embezzlement complaint involving a citizen that I would have been all over it and charged that citizen with embezzlement. Wouldn't this apply to Officer Salajan? How can Luke trust Officer Salajan like he stated to me? How can Officer Salajan go out and arrest other drunk drivers and charge them after his own drunk driving arrest? Luke stated to me that because of what I had done that no other officers wanted to work with me and he feared they would not give me proper back-up. Does this mean that a super drunk driving accident arrest isn't as serious as what I had done? Why would Luke allow Officer Salajan to remain on the job after knowing besides his super drunk (.24 BAC) arrest that Officer Salajan also possessed/used a medical marijuana card? According to previous newspaper articles in the *Independent*, the judge presiding

over Officer Salajan's case acknowledges this and asks Officer Salajan if he has ever tried any other “non-narcotic” drug which Officer Salajan clearly states “no”.

Luke was asked during a township board meeting the status of the officer arrested for drunk driving to which he responds that the officer had been strongly disciplined and was back at work (before the disposition of his super drunk driving accident arrest). One would have to wonder how a judge could lower the “super drunk” (.26 & .24 BAC) charge down to an “impaired charge and 24 months of reporting directly to the judge without having to submit to regular daily PBT's (at \$5 per day) as many other citizens have had to do as part of their probation? One would also have to wonder how come Officer Salajan isn't required to submit to regular drug testing for the marijuana.

I have finally gained the courage to break my silence because this is wrong! If Luke and Sgt. Egerer want to file criminal charges against me for submitting this article, then I will face this, too. There are many improprieties within the Sumpter Township Police Department that need to be investigated! I would be willing to sit down with the Sumpter Township Supervisor and the board members to address some of these concerns as I had planned to do during my termination hearing but did not out of fear of retaliation from Luke and Sgt. Egerer.

The time has come and these improprieties

(continued on page 10)



Van Buren Public School District

Van Buren Public Schools is currently requesting proposals for a company to provide latchkey services for the following schools for the 2019-2020 school years:

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Breaking silence

(continued from page 9)

need to be investigated!

The citizens of Sumpter Township deserve to know the truth of what is going on, what has been going on within their police department.

Danielle Buccellato

Editor's Note: When Chief Luke was asked if he had a comment on why he fired Buccellato, he submitted the following:

"After an internal investigation, I requested Danielle Buccellato's termination on Feb. 5, 2018. The Board then unanimously approved the termination at a special board meeting on or about Feb. 16, 2018.

"Since I have no idea what the story is about or what's prompted it now, 15 months after the fact, I have no basis to comment further. Doing so would be irresponsible, in my opinion. I would also never want to violate a former employee's rights by voluntarily disclosing information which could later be deemed improper in some way.

"Now, if you're interested in explaining in detail what the story is about, I'm more than willing to delve into it further to see what I can do to assist you in printing a factual account. Please let me know if that's something you're interested in."

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June 12 – Brenda J. Fells
June 13 – Thomas Fountain
June 18 – Barney Ban
June 21 – Joe Posegay

Do you have a birthday in June? Does anyone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We'll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.

Upcoming Meetings

- Monday, June 10 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons
- Tuesday, June 11 – Van Buren Township Recreation Committee, 5:30 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 12 – Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

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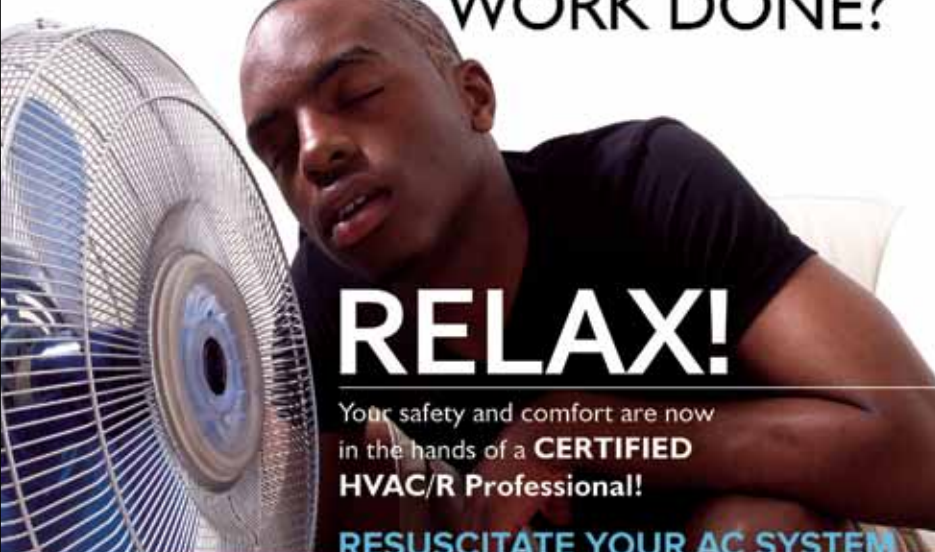
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Belleville

(continued from page 1)

tax income by \$14,400.

Howey said, luckily, the city had taxable value increase, but it still had to further cut services in the new budget.

She said residents will be paying less taxes because of the Headlee Rollback, so with the public safety assessment the city could get back to where they used to be.

Councilman Jesse Marcotte explained that a millage is a vote of the people, but an assessment is voted by the council and every property would pay a little.

Howey said this is an assessment of millage levied by the council.

Councilman Marcotte said currently 24 cents of every \$1 in taxes paid by city taxpayers goes to the city and almost all of that 24 cents goes to public safety.

"It's pretty alarming you have these pressing needs," Howey said.

"There are not a lot of things left to cut," Councilman Marcotte said.

The council discussed ways to use some of the street funds for repairs needed.

When asked how many people were in the DPW, Building Official Rick Rutherford said it was him and 2.5 people.

Mayor Pro Tem Jack Loria said sometimes

it's just physically impossible for the DPW to do things.

Marcotte said there were three choices the council has: reducing or eliminating services, contracting out for services, or getting new revenue.

He recommended having a town hall meeting to discuss all this.

Mayor Pro Tem Loria said they need to get the most money for the least effect on the citizens.

City Manager Diana Kollmeyer said they could pass the budget that evening and then work a few months to get the assessment on the December tax roll.

When a member of the audience questioned the numbers involved, Loria explained that with the high school, intermediate school, elementary school, churches and mobile home parks, the City of Belleville has 25% of its property non taxable.

The assessment, however, would be paid by every property owner.

Fire Chief Brian Loranger told of how things absolutely needed have been cut from the fire budget.

It was pointed out the public safety assessment would be just for the police and fire budgets.

"The money will be going to where it

needs to go and dedicated for that purpose," said Council Tom Fielder.

Marcotte said another additional revenue source is grant funding and he gave credit to Chief Loranger for getting so much for his department with grants. He said it would be money well spent for the city to hire a grant writer.

After there was a question on how much money was needed for police and fire, Howey did some quick math and said it would take \$1.5 million to run the police and fire departments along with some capital purchase money which would be about 1.21 mills.

She said upcoming retirements need to be figured in, but there are a lot of factors. The city will need health care for those who will be coming in and they don't know who will be coming in.

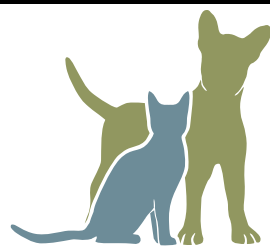
It was announced at the last meeting that the city manager and police chief will be retiring.

"We feel like it's a decent budget," said City Manager Kollmeyer. "Other than Doane's, it's balanced," she said referring to the seawall repair.

A five-year capital purchase budget also was presented to the council for review, but Howey noted the only things included

(continued on page 12)

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Belleville

(continued from page 11)

In the 2019-20 budget were the police car lease payments and equipment which have been committed to.

In other business at Monday's meeting, the council:

- Voted to authorize City Manager Kollmeyer to work with Sharon Pokerwinski on Pokerwinski's request for the Belleville Fire Department to fill the dunk tank for Special Olympics during Strawberry Festival. There was discussion on how the city has to pay for the water and is automatically billed for sewer, but no one suggested making Special Olympics pay. Kollmeyer was directed to have the costs "covered appropriately." There was no information on how much water was needed or where the dunk tank would be placed;

- Heard Rutherford give a brief report on the seawall repair. He said, "We need the steel in hand and we're trying to satisfy the DEQ. We're ready to go";

- Approved accounts payable in the amount of \$34,561.02 and the following purchases in excess of \$500: to C&R Landscaping \$98,333.33, which is the first

of three payments for seawall repair; and to Blue Ribbon Contracting, \$2,758.80 for service lead replacement, Water Fund; and

- Heard Rutherford say he met with the people who complained about water in the cemetery and there is a plan to eliminate the water. Also, the youth summer employment workers are scheduled to start working on cleaning up the cemetery this week, as they are let out of school.

Correction: Name should be spelled 'Shina'

On page 20 in the May 23 edition of the *Belleville-Area Independent*, there was a picture of a couple visiting the Eiffel Tower in Paris with their *Independent*. We misspelled their last name, which is Shina.

We apologize for the error.

Rosemary K. Otzman, editor

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On Monday, the Belleville High School Varsity Softball team beat Ann Arbor Pioneer, 3-1, to clinch the district championship. The team is made up of Haley Bellingham, Cassidy Brendtke, Rachelle Frederick, Kailee Settles, Alyssa McClendon, Madison Mikulski, Alexandria Matheny, Ariel Anderson, Kayla Hamilton, Kayla Haffner, and Mikayla Demyan. Head Coach is Sean Bellingham and Assistant Coaches Dave Brendtke and Emily Stabnau.

Addiction 101 **The Science of Addiction and** **Naloxone Training**

Every day, more than 130 people in the United States die after overdosing on opioids. The misuse of and addiction to opioids is a serious national crisis that affects public health as well as social and economic welfare.

Valerie Kelly-Bonner and Trisché Duckworth from SOOAR lead this informational session about the physical and psychological effects of drug use, and the healthy behaviors necessary for recovery.

They'll also provide information and training about the use of Narcan (Naloxone), a medication designed to rapidly reverse opioid overdose.

Thursday, June 13, 7 pm



sign up to receive a reminder for this event at belleville.evanced.info/signup

Attendance at Library events constitutes consent to be photographed for use in print and/or electronic publicity for the Belleville Area District Library.



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VEHICLE AUCTION

Car Auction June 8, 2019 @ 1:00 P.M.
Johnston Leasing & Sales, Inc.
11370 Hunt Street, Romulus, MI 48174,
the following trade-ins will be available:

- 09 Jeep Commander - 125,668 miles
- 09 Jeep Liberty - 132,251 miles
- 07 Jeep Compass - 105,555 miles
- 10 Mercury Mariner - 161,036 miles
- 08 Ford Focus - 126,746 miles
- 09 Ford Focus - 114,106 miles
- 06 Ford Explorer - 89,271 miles
- 06 Ford Ranger - 130,338 miles
- 00 Chevrolet Cavalier - 225,502 miles
- 01 Chevrolet Camaro Conv. - 99,985 miles
- 01 Chevrolet S10 Crew Cab - 119,598 miles
- 01 Toyota Avalon - 153,375 miles
- 08 GMC Acadia - 169,454 miles
- 10 Mini Cooper Conv. - 126,415 miles
- 05 Ford Escape Limited - 149,796 miles
- 98 Lund Fishing Boat
- 08 Bron Scooter
- 03 Jaguar S-Type - 136,336 miles
- 01 Chevy Impala - 92,545 miles
- 05 Explorer Sport Trac - 151,135 miles
- 13 Ford Fiesta - 51,740 miles

Vehicles are subject to change.

****A \$200.00 cash non-refundable deposit is due upon successful bid with balance due on or before Wednesday June 12, 2019 by 4:00 p.m. (734) 891-7469 - Kurt**

ESTATE SALE

953 LAMBKINS, SALINE. June 14, 12noon-5pm, June 15 & 16, 9am-5pm. Full house of furniture, household items, tools & antiques. 06/13

JUNE 14 & 15, 9am-5pm. 17397 Renton, corner of Bemis & Renton. Furniture, craft & quilt materials, household items & clothing. 06/13

GARAGE/YARD SALE

YARD SALE FUNDRAISER for Lincoln High School Theatre Department. June 8 from 9am-4pm at 6288 Aspen Way, Ypsilanti. 06/06

16088 MARTINSVILLE. June 14 & 15, 9am-5pm. Lots of everything. Spring cleaning! 06/13

GREENBRIAR SUB. MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE. Located at Belleville & Van Born Roads. June 13, 14 & 15, Thursday to Saturday, 9am-5pm. 06/13

45804 BEMIS, BELLEVILLE. June 7-9, 9am-5pm. Hunting, fishing, life jackets, Moose dishes & glasses, vacuum cleaner, lamps, microwave, yard tools & household items. 06/06

MULTI-FAMILY SALE. 44055 S. I-94 Service Dr., West of Belleville Rd. June 12, 13 & 14, 9am-4pm. New & used items. Come look! 06/13

19972 CLARK, BELLEVILLE. Large yard sale. Large variety of quality fabric, household items & lots more. June 6, 7, & 8, 9am-5pm. 06/06

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ROTOTILLER, moving dolly, hiking gear, fishing poles, surf boards, boogie board & snow board. Call between 9am & 6pm (734) 578-2824 06/20

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INSIDE STORAGE NEEDED for 22' long by 10' high RV. Call (313) 580-8277 with pricing & location. 06/20

HELP WANTED

Operations Assistant Wanted!

Job duties include: Maintaining records, filing, creating and updating Excel spreadsheets, event planning, submitting licensing applications, organizing quarterly corporate compliance meetings, organizing annual satisfaction surveys, organizing and completing quarterly site audits, typing and other projects and duties as assigned.

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- Must have clear criminal background
- Knowledge of Excel and Word are preferred
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Contact Patty Thomas at:

(734) 838-3400

or email at:

Patty@questserv.org



Grant A. Shepherd earns Bachelor of Arts *cum laude* from Olivet

Grant A. Shepherd of Belleville earned a Bachelor of Arts degree, *cum laude*, from Olivet College.

Cum laude means a total grade point average of 3.50 to 3.74 on a 4.0 scale.

He was among 201 graduates recognized during commencement ceremonies on May 18. The event marked the conclusion of the College's 175th anniversary with special guests and proclamations.

Van Buren Public Schools Public Notice

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED BUDGET FOR THE 2019-2020 SCHOOL YEAR
VAN BUREN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
555 W. Columbia Ave.
Belleville, MI 48111

VAN BUREN PUBLIC SCHOOLS will hold a public meeting on its proposed budget for the 2019-2020 school year at Belleville High School, 501 W. Columbia Ave., Belleville, MI 48111, in the Commons, beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, June 24, 2019. Copies of the proposed budget will be available for public inspection at the Administration Building, 555 W. Columbia, Belleville, MI 48111, during regular business hours on or after 12:00 p.m. on June 24, 2019. **THE PROPERTY TAX MILLAGE RATE PROPOSED TO BE LEVIED TO SUPPORT THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE A SUBJECT OF THIS HEARING.**

Darlene Loyer Gerick, Secretary
Van Buren Public Schools

Publish: June 6, 2019; June 13, 2019



Sumpter Township Public Notice



SUMPTER TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REQUEST FOR A ZONING VARIANCE

The Sumpter Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111 at 7:00 pm, Thursday, June 27, 2019 regarding the request for the following dimensional variance.

NATURE OF THE REQUESTS

The township is in receipt of an application requesting a dimensional variance from Section 5.13(d) of the zoning ordinance. The applicant seeks to install a single-family modular dwelling with a 5:12 roof pitch. Per the Sumpter Township zoning ordinance, the minimum allowable roof pitch for a single-family dwelling is 6:12. The site for the requested variance is located at 44575 Wear Road, Belleville, MI 48111.

This Public Hearing has been scheduled in accordance with the requirements of Public Act. 168, Section 0 of 1959 (amendments to the Township Rural Zoning Act. P.A. 184) to provide all interested citizens an opportunity to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss in detail all aspects of the proposed use.

For those unable to attend the Public Hearing, written comments may be submitted to the Township Clerk's Office prior to the hearing date.

Esther Hurst
Clerk
Sumpter Township

To Be Published: June 6, 2019

Minding Your Business with Bob Mytych



The Belleville Area Council for the Arts' 7th Annual Soiree to benefit the Music Lakeside summer concert series at Horizon Park is this Friday, June 7, beginning at 7 p.m. at the BYC on East Huron River Drive. Tickets are \$50 each and includes live entertainment, live auction, hors d'oeuvres, and cocktails. Visit www.bacaart.com and www.musiclakeside.com.

Express Tire and Automotive Repair on Belleville Road will get your vehicle ready for the summer with valuable coupons such as an AC Inspection for \$9.95, an oil change for \$29.95, and \$40 off any set of new tires. See their ad in today's paper and schedule an appointment with Marty at (734) 697-2424 and visit www.expresstire.com.

Life-Line Screening will be offering a community screening event on June 18, at the Eagles on Beck Road in Van Buren Township. The cost for the screening packages is \$149 and the testing will check for HDL and LDL Cholesterol levels, Diabetes, Bone Density, Kidney and Thyroid Function, and the level of plaque buildup in arteries, related to risk for heart disease, stroke, and overall vascular health. Pre-registration is required. Call (877) 237-1287 and visit www.lifelinescreening.com. Be sure to see their flyer inserted into today's paper for more details.

Today's paper also includes the registration form in an insert for the upcoming Lakeside Strawberry 5K Run/Walk & 1K Fun Run set for June 15 in Downtown Belleville. For info, email info@bellevilleareachamber.org. Online registration is also available at www.bacc.enmotive.com/events/register/2019-lakeside-strawberry-5k-run-walk. Get a free T-Shirt if pre-registered by June 8. The 1K Fun Run starts at 7:45 a.m. followed by the 5K Run/Walk at 8 a.m.

Today's paper also contains the Sumpter

Ace Hardware insert for their Father's Day Sale, going on now thru June 17. Sumpter Ace offers some cool gifts for Dad, such as grills, tools, and much more. While you're there be sure to check out their savings on outdoor furniture, yard and garden tools, and BOGO bird seed. The front page of the circular features a 25% off coupon, good for any one regular priced item under \$50. See store for details. Call (734) 697-9363.

Yost Sand & Gravel is having the biggest sale on the planet on red mulch. Okay, perhaps not the entire planet. Get 5 yards of it delivered to Belleville only for \$195. See their ad in today's paper for larger loads. The u-pick-up price is \$30 per square yard. Call (734) 697-1183.

It's Free Fishing Weekend this weekend throughout the state and that means no fishing license is required, however the state rules and regulations still apply. Crosswinds Marsh Interpretive Preserve in Sumpter is holding their annual Family Fishing Fun Day this Saturday, June 8, from 9 a.m. until noon. The free event will feature fishing contests in three categories: 0-5 years, 6-11 years, and 12-17 years old. Fishing poles and bait will be provided. Kids can bring a clean cotton T-shirt and make their very own fish print art shirt. Call (734) 654-1220.

Do you have a business item you would like to see in this column? There is no charge. Call Bob Mytych at (734) 699-9020 with your suggestion.

National Heritage Academies Keystone Academy Public Notice

Public Budget Hearing

will be held for the following
Public School Academy:

Keystone

47925 Bemis Road, Belleville
(734) 697-9470

June 13, 5 p.m.

Copies of the Budget for the listed
Public School Academy will be
available at the school office.

Published: June 6, 2019

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Worship Service - 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.

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Things to do in the Belleville area...

• **Thursday, June 6** – Bunco at 6 p.m. at the Van Buren Eagles, 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township. (734) 699-8836

• **Thursday, June 6** – Strawberry Summer Kick-Off Party for the Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce is from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Eagles pavilion at 9961 Beck Rd., Van Buren Township. Cost is \$22 per person. New board members will be sworn in: Therese Antonelli, Steve Jones, Mike Kole and Mike Long. Appetizers provided by Angel Food Catering. (734) 697-7151

• **Saturday, June 8** – Join Van Buren Township Parks & Rec staff for a free rock-painting party, 12-2 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Rd. Rocks, paint and brushes provided. All ages welcome. Come dressed to paint.

• **Saturday, June 8** – Free Yard Sale – Circulation Day, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Unity of Livonia, 28660 Five Mile Rd., Livonia 48154. It's really not a sale; it is a giveaway. Come and receive whatever you might need in the way of home and yard goods, pictures, jewelry, toys, and more. Take what you can use and enjoy.

No charge. Unity teaches that we live in an infinitely abundant universe that answers all of our needs before we even recognize the need ourselves. This Free Yard Sale or Circulation Day gives the opportunity to stimulate the law of giving and receiving. *During peak hours, there may be a limit to the number of items a person can have.*

• **Saturday, June 8** – Bark for Life event, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Elmer Johnson's Park, 9755 Goddard Rd., Romulus. All proceeds will benefit the Romulus Relay for Life to earn funds to fight cancer. Activities include picnic, carnival games for kids, parade, dog photographer, dunk tank, fun runs, fairy door crafts for kids, cutest dog contest, best-dressed dog contest, best dog trick contest and more.

• **Sunday, June 9** – Free, live music at the September Days Senior Center, 2-5 p.m. Today it's 18 Strings. For information, call Jimmy Baleja, (734) 223-4824 or Lynette Jordan (734) 699-8918.

• **Sunday, June 9** – Jitterbugs Elite Dance recital at 3 p.m. at Belleville High School Auditorium.

• **Monday, June 10** – Belleville Farmers' Market open from 4 to 7:30 p.m. on Mondays through September at the Fourth Street Square. Sponsored by Belleville Central Business Community.

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7 Yards	\$255	12 Yards	\$425
8 Yards	\$285	15 Yards	\$515
9 Yards	\$315	20 Yards	\$665

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Sumpter Township Public Notice

SUMPTER TOWNSHIP NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING REQUEST FOR A ZONING VARIANCE

The Sumpter Township Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing at the Sumpter Township Hall, 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111 at 7:00 pm, Thursday, June 27, 2019 regarding the request for the following dimensional variance.

NATURE OF THE REQUESTS

The township is in receipt of an application requesting a dimensional variance of 160 square feet from Section 5.3(a)(4) of the zoning ordinance. The applicant seeks to construct a 2,560 square foot accessory structure in the rear yard of the 2.64 acre parcel. Per the Sumpter Township zoning ordinance, the maximum allowable square footage for an accessory structure on parcels 1.01 acres to 3.0 acres is 2,400 square feet. The site for the requested variance is located at 19875 Haggerty Road, Belleville, MI 48111.

This Public Hearing has been scheduled in accordance with the requirements of Public Act. 168, Section 0 of 1959 (amendments to the Township Rural Zoning Act. P.A. 184) to provide all interested citizens an opportunity to express opinions, ask questions, and discuss in detail all aspects of the proposed use.

For those unable to attend the Public Hearing, written comments may be submitted to the Township Clerk's Office prior to the hearing date.

Esther Hurst
Clerk
Sumpter Township

To Be Published: June 6, 2019

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Van Buren Township Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 516 dispatch calls for service reported by Van Buren Township police for these past seven days, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, May 26:
0004 – shooting, McBride Ave.
0234 – noise complaint, Outer Dr.
0310 – suicidal person, Beckley Rd.
0818 – larceny from auto, Revere Dr.
0838 – suspicious person/vehicle, Michigan Ave.
1327 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1346 – larceny from auto, Andover Dr.
1357 – threat, Denton Rd.
1438 – private property impound, Industrial Dr.
1544 – suspicious person/vehicle, Maple Dr./Birch
1628 – missing person, anna Dr.
1649 – sexual assault, Inkster
1712 – traffic offense, Tyler Rd./Jackson St.
1745 – 911 welfare check, Fret Rd.
1919 – suspicious person/vehicle, Bak Rd.
1917 – disorderly, Rose Blvd.
2006 – disorderly, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2047 – disorderly, Haggerty Rd./S. I-94 Service
2106 – leaving the scene of a property damage accident, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.
2124 – disorderly, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2127 – noise complaint, Denton Rd.
2338 – domestic, N. Woodbury Dr.
2341 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.

Monday, May 27:
0245 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
0444 – assist other dept., Belle Villa Blvd.
0957 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ironwood Dr.
1041 – private property impound, Ecorse Rd.
1053 – malicious destruction, Hull Rd.
1305 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ash Dr.
1323 – animal complaint, Belleville
1357 – larceny from auto, Rolan Meadows Dr.
1440 – animal complaint, Senate St.
1454 – malicious destruction of property, Denton
1513 – private property/property damage accident, Parkwood Dr.
1522 – fight, Spruce Ln.
1615 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1659 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1704 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1913 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ecorse Rd.
1914 – traffic offense, Country Walk Ct.
1927 – runaway, Quirk Rd.
1950 – family trouble, Tyler Rd.
2038 – 911 welfare check, Stratford Dr.
2124 – shooting, Haggerty Rd.
2127 – fireworks, Lohr Rd.
2130 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2220 – shooting, Lancaster Dr./Tyler Rd.
2304 – suspicious person/vehicle, Denton Rd.
2323 – missing person, Elwell Rd.
2328 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2356 – domestic, Rogers Ave.

Tuesday, May 28:
0020 – animal complaint, Van Buren St.
0108 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
0433 – threat, Ecorse Rd.
0551 – suicidal person, W. Walden Dr.
0817 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Huron River Dr./Farm Rd.
0835 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave./Denton Rd.
1002 – malicious destruction of property, Lake Point Pass
1118 – operating while intoxicated, Belleville Rd. / Tyler Rd.
1229 – suspicious person/vehicle, Cross St.
1244 – suspicious person/vehicle, Renton Rd.
1245 – fraud, Ecorse Rd.
1314 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1441 – animal complaint, Farm Rd./W. Huron River Dr.
1458 – missing person, Daniel Dr.
1609 – assist other dept., Buchanan St.
1616 – larceny, Locust Dr.
1625 – animal complaint, McBride Ave.
1626 – larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1659 – disorderly, Ecorse Rd.
1710 – neighbor trouble, Sylvia Dr.
1722 – neighbor trouble, Van Born
1743 – follow up by officer, Daniel Dr.
1822 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
1903 – fraud, S. I-94 Service Dr.

1930 – suspicious person/vehicle, Morton Taylor
1948 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd.
2110 – family trouble, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2115 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
2133 – suspicious person/vehicle, Lighthouse Dr.
2242 – missing person, Burtrig St.
2249 – traffic offense, Maple Dr./Birch Dr.
2335 – follow up by officer, Burtrig St.

Wednesday, May 29:
0101 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. Ponderosa Trl
0918 – larceny from auto, Oak Ln.
0952 – neighbor trouble, Winding Pond Dr.
1005 – malicious destruction of property, Parkwood Dr.

1144 – harassment call, Van Buren St.
1203 – ordinance violation, Brookside Dr.
1211 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1305 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Fret Rd.
1404 – ordinance violation, Denton Rd.
1412 – suspicious person/vehicle, N. I-94 Service
1451 – malicious destruction of property, Tyler
1513 – private property impound, Van Born
1546 – noise complaint, Bemis Rd.
1552 – assist other dept., Rolan Meadows Dr.
1607 – found property/child, Maple Dr.
1649 – suspicious person/vehicle, Maple Dr.
1645 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1826 – animal complaint, Savage Rd.
1831 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1845 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
1905 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1910 – larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2011 – ordinance violation, Lighthouse Dr.
2032 – threat, S. I-94 Service Dr.
2129 – animal complaint, Tyler Rd.
2221 – noise complaint, Haggerty Rd.
2233 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr. / Tyler Rd.
2237 – domestic, S. I-94 Service Dr.

Thursday, May 30:
0109 – domestic, Rose Blvd.
0417 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty/I-94
0817 – larceny from auto, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1011 – juvenile complaint, Lohr Rd.
1148 – fraud, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1204 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / W. Huron River Dr.
1333 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / Robson Rd.
1341 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1344 – harassment call, Maple Dr.
1525 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1551 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Haggerty Rd.
1744 – suspicious person/vehicle, Van Buren St.
1747 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1837 – property damage accident, Michigan Service Dr. / Cemetery Rd.
1947 – noise complaint, Van Buren St.
2003 – juvenile complaint, Vine St.
2012 – fireworks, Van Born
2117 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd. / W I-94
2152 – personal injury accident, W. Huron River Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.

Friday, May 31:
0251 – family trouble, Rose Blvd.
0256 – assault & battery, Bemis Rd.
0626 – motorist assist, Sheldon/tracks
0914 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.
1118 – animal complaint, Hamilton St.
1147 – animal complaint, Hamilton St.
1343 – abandoned auto, Denton Rd.
1528 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1636 – assist other dept., Westlake Cir.
1641 – property damage accident, Haggerty/Riggs
1647 – abandoned auto, Lindsey Dr.
1658 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1701 – family trouble, Birch Dr.
1722 – disorderly, Village Center Dr.
1813 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1842 – animal complaint, S. Timberview Dr.
2004 – traffic offense, E. Walden Dr.
2041 – abandoned auto, Laguna Dr.
2221 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.

Saturday, June 1:
0027 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville/Tyler
0038 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.

0144 – suspicious person/vehicle, Park Estates Dr. / Michigan Ave.
0329 – suspicious person/vehicle, Brookview Dr. / Belleville Rd.
0342 – larceny, Parkwood Dr.
0410 – suspicious person/vehicle, Dorchester Dr.
0524 – suspicious person/vehicle, Stratford Dr.
0950 – unauthorized driving away of auto, Kirkridge Park Dr.
0957 – road hazard, Van Born Rd./Morton Taylor
1014 – road hazard, French Landing Plaza
1137 – larceny from auto, Dorchester Dr.
1200 – parking complaint, Quirk Park Pavilion
1247 – larceny from auto, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1309 – larceny from auto, Kirkridge Park Dr.
1324 – larceny from auto, Dorchester Dr.
1348 – 911 welfare check, Parkwood Dr.
1410 – property damage accident, Haggerty Rd. / E. Huron River Dr.
1425 – property damage accident, S. I-94 Service Dr. / Hannan Rd.
1507 – animal complaint, Jackson St.
1615 – larceny from auto, Rolan Meadows Dr. / Tyler Rd.
1641 – larceny, Independence Ln.
1647 – animal complaint, Greenbriar Dr. / Belleville Rd.
1728 – 911 welfare check, Fret Rd.
1816 – neighbor trouble, Denton Rd.
1827 – animal complaint, Pine Dr.
1849 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1859 – retail fraud, Belleville Rd.
1940 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1948 – 911 welfare check, Richard Run Dr.
2012 – suspicious person/vehicle, Ryznar Dr.
2159 – suspicious person/vehicle, E. Huron River
2211 – suspicious person/vehicle, Van Buren St. / McBride Ave.
Also on this week’s log are 181 traffic stops, with 38 of them being on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, May 26:
0102 – noise complaint, Astor Pl.
1106 – property damage accident, Main St.
1541 – family trouble, Henry St.
1754 – property damage accident, Main St.

Monday, May 27:
0131 – welfare check, W. Columbia Ave.
0438 – domestic, Belle Villa Blvd.
0851 – assist fire dept., Carmell St.
2214 – noise complaint, Belle Villa Blvd.

Tuesday, May 28:
0618 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
1511 – assist other dept., High St.
2110 – civil matter, Belle Villa Blvd.

Wednesday, May 29:
1131 – miscellaneous complaint, Great Lakes Towing, Van Born Rd.
1241 – assist fire dept., Main St.
1500 – assist fire dept., Main St.
1611 – suspicious person/vehicle, Main St.
2146 – fireworks, Belle Villa Blvd.

Thursday, May 30:
0650 – larceny from auto, Loza Ln.
0721 – found property/child, Main St.
1033 – warrant arrest, Sumpter/Bemis
1210 – assist other dept., W. Columbia Ave. / Church St.
1426 – parking complaint, W. Columbia Ave.
1532 – property damage accident, Main St./First
2006 – assist fire dept., Belle Villa Blvd.
2121 – intrusion alarm, E. Columbia Ave.

Friday, May 31:
1031 – assist fire dept., W. Columbia Ave.
1058 – intrusion alarm, Biggs Ave.
1348 – vehicle lockout, Santa Clara St.
1623 – vehicle lockout, Sam’s Place

Saturday, June 1:
0209 – assist fire dept., Potter Dr.
1054 – intrusion alarm, W. Columbia Ave.
1322 – assist fire dept., Menlo Park Dr.
1401 – motorist assist, E. Huron River Dr. / tracks
2339 – intrusion alarm, Sumpter Rd.

Also on this week’s log are 37 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, May 26:
0010 – ordinance violation, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
0315 – family trouble, 25000 bl. Elwell Rd.
0325 – family trouble, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
0855 – fire dept. assist, 19000 bl. Crandell Ct.
1010 – suspicious incident, Colorado
1032 – citizen assist, 24000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1152 – neighbor dispute, 19000 bl. Crandell Ct.
1338 – fight, Carriage Ln.
1625 – malicious destruction of property, 42000 bl.

Willis Rd.
1628 – malicious destruction of property, 19000 bl. Crandell Ct.
1630 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1655 – traffic hazard, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1917 – fight, Sumpter/Dunn
1940 – assault, 48000 bl. Willow Rd.
1942 – suspicious incident, 28000 bl. Martinsville
1952 – fire dept. assist, 12000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
2022 – reckless driver, 10000 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
2330 – noise complaint, Edgewood Dr.

Monday, May 27:
0236 – assist other agency, out of township
0719 – suspicious incident, 24000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1134 – family trouble, 50000 bl. Willis Rd.
1329 – traffic hazard, 48000 bl. Harris Rd.
1331 – alarm, 24000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1357 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
1743 – family trouble, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1753 – animal complaint, Karr/Wear
1942 – threats complaint, 45000 bl. Dunn Rd.
2153 – mental health commitment, Washington St.

Tuesday, May 28:
0703 – animal complaint, 18000 bl. Martinsville
0820 – fire dept. assist, 27000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1003 – neighbor dispute, 19000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1048 – malicious destruction of property, Carriage Ln.

1207 – juvenile complaint, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1234 – suspicious incident, 20000 bl. Clark Rd.
1257 – suspicious vehicle, Martinsville/Willow
1503 – harassment complaint, 46000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1515 – reckless driver, 5400 bl. Oakville Waltz
1637 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Willis Rd.
1831 – disorderly person, Willis/Rawsonville
1930 – animal complaint, 21000 bl. Lohr Rd.
1949 – alarm, 22000 bl. Elwell Rd.
2024 – suspicious incident, Virginia
2107 – trespassing complaint, 40000 bl. Bemis Rd.
2150 – suspicious incident, 45000 bl. Arkona Rd.
2308 – suspicious incident, Walnut
2343 – animal complaint, 17000 bl. Martinsville

Wednesday, May 29:
0124 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
0307 – assist other agency, 19000 bl. Clark Rd.
1139 – suspicious vehicle, 18000 bl. Lohr Rd.
1209 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Karr Rd.
1212 – fire dept. assist, Carriage Ln.
1254 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Fenster
1310 – ordinance violation, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1324 – suspicious incident, 17000 bl. Savage Rd.
1654 – down wires, 22000 bl. Haggerty Rd.
1828 – civil dispute, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
1959 – trespassing complaint, 22000 bl. Sumpter
2023 – warrant arrest pick up, out of township
2035 – animal complaint, Harris/Martinsville
2208 – 911 hang up, Brookview
2358 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Bemis Rd.

Thursday, May 30:
0056 – civil dispute, Brookview
0427 – suspicious incident, Sumpter/Oakville Waltz
0530 – reckless driver, Willow/Rawsonville
0918 – animal complaint, 43000 bl. Bemis Rd.
0922 – warrant arrest pick up, out of township
1118 – civil dispute, 44000 bl. Willow Rd.
1236 – harassment complaint, 22000 bl. Fenster
1249 – ordinance violation, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1324 – citizen assist, 23000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1336 – malicious destruction of property, 39000 bl. Willow Rd.
1424 – alarm, 22000 bl. Carleton West Rd.
1441 – citizen assist, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
1529 – fire dept. assist, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
1558 – ordinance violation, 29600 bl. Elwell Rd.
1739 – assist other agency, out of township
1950 – reckless driver, Judd/Elwell
2211 – mental health commitment, 45000 bl. Judd

(Continued on page 19)

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Sumpter Township Police Dispatch Log

(continued on page 18)

2312 – well-being check, 20000 bl. Wilnot Rd.
Friday, May 31:
 0218 – 911 hang up, 46000 bl. Kozma
 1021 – fire dept. assist, Arizona
 1221 – down wires, 45000 bl. Willis Rd.
 1328 – animal complaint, 48000 bl. Wear Rd.
 1426 – fraud complaint, 50000 bl. Wear Rd.
 1508 – disorderly person, 47000 bl. Bemis Rd.
 1532 – down wires, Savage/Harris
 1850 – ORV complaint, 26000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
 1948 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Arkona
 2355 – property damage accident, 50000 bl. Judd
Saturday, June 1:
 0533 – alarm, 8300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
 0956 – warrant arrest pick up, out of township
 1010 – animal complaint, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
 1028 – property damage accident, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
 1036 – traffic hazard, Martinsville/Oakville Waltz
 1308 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
 1356 – civil dispute, Rustic Ln.
 1805 – fire dept. assist, 42000 bl. Judd Rd.
 2234 – alarm, 8300 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
 2357 – noise complaint, 45000 bl. Harris Rd.
 Also on this week's log are 10 follow-up investigations, 37 miscellaneous details, 39 patrol checks, and 29 traffic stops.

More Letters

Thank you, St. Jude, for answering my prayers

To the editor:

Thank you, St. Jude, for answering my prayers. You helped everyone that I prayed for.

St. Jude's Novena

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, helper of the hopeless, pray for us.

Say this prayer nine times a day and by the eighth day your prayer will be answered. Publication must be promised.

With much gratitude

E.B., Belleville

Thank you to St. Jude for hearing my prayer

To the editor:

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved and preserved throughout the world now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us and St. Jude, helper of the hopeless pray for us.

St Jude answered my prayer.

Citizen of Belleville

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



Notice to Advertisers:

The *Belleville-Area Independent* will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The *Independent's* liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the *Independent* be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

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HIGH END IMPROVEMENTS



15803 BAK, VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP
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6 BEDROOMS



15732 S HURON RIVER, ROMULUS
THIS HOME HAS MORE SPACE THAN SPACE! Offering 6 Bedrooms, 2 Full and 2 Half Baths, Expansive Family Room with Gas Fireplace Impress and Entertain. Back yard is fenced and is just Perfect for Pets. \$255,900

6 CAR GARAGE



14711 HAGGERTY, VAN BUREN
CUSTOM-BUILT EXECUTIVE HOME 3 Large Bedrooms, 3 Baths & 3 Half Baths. Master Suite on First Floor, Granite Kitchen, Full Finished basement with Full Bath. 3 Car Garage + Room for an RV on 1.44 Acres \$425,000

YES - ANN ARBOR



4401 PARK RD, ANN ARBOR
RARELY OFFERED SCIO TOWNSHIP Brick Farm House Featuring Four Bedrooms, Two Baths, Enclosed Front Porch, Living Room, Dining Room, Attached Garage, Huge Basement on Large 1.4 Acre Parcel Complete with Outbuildings and Large Barn. Just Minutes From Downtown Ann Arbor. \$329,900

4,224 SQUARE FEET



23560 SUMPTER, SUMPTER TWP
INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY. Possible Residential, Day Care, Group Home, Apartments or Your Ideas Large front covered porch. Large Covered Patio & fireplace and fenced around the patio area. Fire System. 1 Large Kitchen, 2 Apartment Kitchens, 5 Bathrooms. 1 Car Detached Garage. A Best Buy at \$225,000

5 SECLUDED ACRES



17160 RENTON, VAN BUREN
NATURES DOORSTEP IS RIGHT OUT YOUR FRONT DOOR. Affordable 3 Bedroom 1 Bath Vinyl Ranch with Open Kitchen, Living Room and Wood Stove. Whole House Generator, Central Air on Five Acres of Secluded Living complete with small Golf Course, Mature Trees and More. \$159,900

PRIME LOCATION



41405 TYLER, VAN BUREN
PRIME LOCATION. Opportunity Awaits this 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath Home. Large Lot with Larger 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage. This Property could be the key to a larger development parcel. Tenant Occupied - Do not disturb tenants without a confirmed appointment. Just Offered at \$140,000

FOR SALE OR LEASE



500E HURON RIVER DR, BELLEVILLE
HIGHEST QUALITY BRICK COMMERCIAL BUILDING IN THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE. Former Florist, Bakery and Coffee House. Potential for Franchise Opportunity and Immediate Occupancy. It's QUALITY, POTENTIAL AND DESIGN! For Sale at \$799,000 or Lease at \$5,000. Month Double Net.

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VACANT RAWSONVILLE 2.6 AC \$110,000
44235 WEAR - TWO 2.6 AC Each \$30,000
25817 SUMPTER 80X529 .97 AC \$20,000
SUMPTER EXETER TWP 8 ACRES \$65,000

VACANT SUMPTER & WILLIS COMM & RESIDENTIAL ZONING 25 ACR \$250,000
JUDD 10 ACRES SUMPTER TWP \$100,000
SAVAGE 1 ACRE SUMPTER TWP \$45,000
49317 ARKONA 40.28 ACRES \$180,000
SHERWOOD 37.55 AC BY WEAR \$145,000

WILLIS SUMPTER 1.14 ACRES \$60,000
28710 SUMPTER ROAD \$10,000
VACANT BALL ROMULUS .34 AC \$19,000
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MORTON TAYLOR 1.8 ACRES \$30,000
HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$70,000

HURON TWP VAC CLARK .74 ACRES \$65,000
HURON TWP VAC CLARK 1.12 ACRES \$75,000
HURON TWP VAC OTTER 2.94 ACRES \$80,000
HURON TWP VAC BELL 2.48 ACRES \$75,000
HURON TWP VAC BELL 2.48 ACRES \$75,000
HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$70,000

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*WITH APPROVED CREDIT A/Z PLAN PRICING FOR ALL RETURNING LESSEES, MUST QUALIFY FOR MILITARY OR FIRST RESPONDERS REBATE. NO SECURITY DEPOSIT INCLUDES 10,500 MILES A YEAR FOR 24MO. PAYMENT PLUS TAX, \$2000 DOWN, PLUS FIRST PAYMENT TAXES, TITLE, DOC. FEE AND LICENSE DUE AT SIGNING. EXPIRES 07/01/2019